



# Here Kitty, Kitty

fiction

cats

fantasy



## Chapter 1 by Angelina Chen

I stared down at the freshly painted sidewalk as I trudged home. I couldn't believe it! I just got another F on my social studies test, that would drop my grade down to a D! I don't want to go home and find out what my parents reaction would be after getting my second F. They have trained me my whole life to get good grades and be a "perfect" student, and here I was, walking home clutching another note, damp with my sweat ( it was a burning day). On the road that would turn onto our driveway, my enemy neighbor, Jimmy, looked out the window from his room and stuck his tongue out at me. He then pretended to be surprised at the note in my hand. He open the window and opened his eyes wide, " Hey May" he said teasingly, "another note in your hand?", "I thought your parents already knocked some sense into you last week!" Then he quickly glanced at his half open door and sat back down like none of this happened. Probably his mom I thought, at least he gets into some trouble also; I tried thinking of how I could sneak into the house and find out a way to avoid my parents. Then I shook my head, "No," I muttered, I was thinking the impossible again. As I walked through the door, I immediately noticed that something was not right. The floor creaked as if adding to my suspicion, as I walked to the living room... No one was there. My dad usually is on the couch looking at his out of trend computer

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where every single crack, scrape, and dent was on the ceiling. Then, for the first time I noticed how I felt better staring at the white ceiling above me. At least it is something that is the same I thought to myself. I gripped my pink bedsheet and tried to process everything that happened today, but I couldn't. It was like my brain didn't let me, then I remembered how my fifth grade teacher taught the class how to relax, I could still remember her firm but soft voice filling the room with her instructions. "To relax and clear your brain, you need to inhale for ten seconds, then exhale. Repeat those steps until you feel like you are ready to go on." She paused for a second, before hands started to go up. I popped back into the real world. All of a sudden, I wanted everything to be the same again, even if it meant getting in huge trouble because of the F. Then I realized that the, getting a F incident, felt like it happened weeks ago. At that moment, I felt the real world fading away from me,...

"...finally here, well,... help her get introduced Max." "Sure bossy..." As I faded into the world I was in I nearly jumped out of my skin. I looked around as the sun glared into my squinted eyes. There were fuzzy animals everywhere. I could not get a clear look at anything for my eyes had not adjusted to the bright light yet. As I looked around, I realized that they were cats! Fuzzy cats, but wait, I heard them talk as I entered this new dimension. The cat, they called Max was pure white other than the spot on his left eye and the spot on his tail. He swayed back and forth as he walked calmly into my reach.

Well, well, well. Look at what we had here. I thought you decide not to bring anymore girls huh, Dan? Guess you could not resist." Max cooley stated.

"No, it was Stan that did that, not me." Dan helplessly answered. Dan had a brown coat and a white tail trudging along behind him. I started at the cats and just could not get the words out. "What?" was the best I managed.

"Oh yeah, her, I almost forgot. Exactly what all Maters say." Max said with a twist in his tone. I figured the new people like me were called Maters.

"Bring her to the Zone and we can see who she actually is. And do not let her see the other Maters, ok?" Stan uttered weakly. The words, and do not let her see the other Maters, ok? burned into my mind as Max brought me to the Zone. Where the heck am I, I wondered. My mind filled with a million questions as Max tied me up with his mouth and paws ierked me back

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pushed me into a old, and weary room filled with lumps of some sort. It smelled like bread and stale cookies. As my eyes swept over the rock storage room, I saw a square with a pink gel coating the square. It was like a pink mirror. The longer I stared into it the drowsier I became, I saw a flash of bright green for a millisecond before I felt myself crashing to the floor. It started with fur. Black furs grew first, then the pure white fur began to show. The luxurious fur covered everything. I expected myself to become small, tiny and helpless but I felt somewhat braver and stronger. It was strange because as I shrank, my outer clothing slithered off me, and it was like I was shredding off unnecessary stuff, my clumsy legs, these ridiculously weak arms. I felt like I had been boiled down to my absolute essentials. Like was not even made of bones and flesh anymore. I felt like liquid steel. My vision stunned my brain as I saw even the tiniest little flicker in the environment. My ears twisted and turned to find out what was happening around me. And also my nose was like an opening to a ocean of scents and smells. I stood there for a minute or two getting used to having my bare skin on the dusty ground and my tail waving behind me. I turned my small but quick head when I heard Max gasp.

"Wha... how...you..." Max stuttered. Then he took a little whiff of my sent and his flexible tail whipped around his body as if he was trying to get rid of something behind him. I was scared to say anything, because I might make a fool out of myself. He crouched down on his paws and slid his paws out in front of him, his claws scratching the floor.

"I am sorry I look so dirty and helpless in front of you but I was not expecting there to be a newborn Nack." Max boldly said as he looked at the ground. I twisted my head a quarter of the way and murmured,

"What?"

"Oh, um... A Nack is the highest form of a cat, its coat is pure white and and black underneath. Its eyes are a stunning shade of green and blue and its tail had a pattern that spells its name." Max said almost like he was repeating after somebody. I blinked confused and padded around a rusty stone block in circles. I suddenly had the urge to lick myself so I did, what harm could it do now that I was a cat; my body looked cleaner after I did that anyway. Max purred quietly and slowly padded to the doorway he brought me in from, he flashed a glance at me and dashed off into the shades of green. I was drawn to the green lush outside this dusty and stale room so I

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"Hello, you must be a newborn." She said with royalty, "I welcome you to Home, the place you will be staying so you can experience the feeling of being in someone else's paws and so you can share your information with other Tallfurs after you go through the Zone again." She stopped for a moment as if trying to see if I was taking this in. "Oh, I am sorry, I forgot to introduce myself, I am Misty. It seems like you have the same gift as I, the gift of being able to control our surroundings. We are Nacks." I guess my eyes gave way that I was feeling quite powerful so Misty shook her head, the floating white furs on her face swaying from the motion.

"Naturewise of coarse." Misty responded with a playful gleam in her eye. I could not find what to say. To feel excited and grateful for my controlling gifts and my being here, or to feel angry that they took me away from my family. I think I chose happy, there was nothing I could do about it anyway. I guess I could only "live in the moment".

"What do I do here?" I shyly purred somewhat certain that Misty did not hear me, but Misty responded well.

"You will learn new one, the talents that come with being a cat, and the flaws of being one. We must tell what your name is. Turn around please." I twisted my now flexible body and slowly padded until my fluffy tail was facing her. I waited for Misty to speak again but she did not. Instead, she began to lick my tail in an up and down motion. Her caressing tongue made me relax as I remembered what Max said before he left, ...and its tail had a pattern that spells its name.

"Lovely." Misty mumbled as I twisted my head to see myself. "Your name from now on will be Abigail. We must go to the Pines to talk to the leaders." She said with now a sense of responsibility. As Misty walked me to the "Pines", I noticed everyone staring at me with wide eyes. I almost tripped over my own feet trying to avoid their awkward stares and whispers.

"Um... Are we there yet?" I asked with uncertainty.

"We are already here. Look." Misty said sternly. I squinted my eyes and saw three very dark shadows moving toward us. I gasped, they each had blood-red eyes and their walking was so... perfect, like they were gliding across ice.

As they came into thin ray of light, I saw how beautiful their coat was. Almost the opposite of mine, a stunning black that shined like a million jewels. The fur was rather long, cascading to

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"Sir, I am begging for you to forgive me, she has just waken up from her newborn daze." Misty said bowing her head so low it touch the dirt and smeared her fur brown.

"All right." Daniel said clearly recovering from his outburst,"Get out!" With one flick of their tail, they turned and walked back into the shadows. Msty leaded me out of the dark forest and into the bright field.

"Why are they so mean? I mean, I thought we were like the most powerful cats in this place." I wondered out loud. Mlsty made a deep gurgling sound with her throat.

"No, they used to be our rivals. Our tribe would battle theirs until the leader was dead. Our tribe won every single one until they three were born. They destroyed us until only a few of us were left. The only way for them to stop was to bow to them and beg them to stop. At the last minute, my mother bowed to them and begged them to give them mercy. From that point on, they rule all of us, including our type, Nacks." Misty cried with sadness.

"You have me now right? I can be like you family for now. Wait, so there used to be more of us?" I said with carefulness, carefully choosing each word. Misty never answered my question, she just stared ahead robotically. I quickly glanced to the ground wondering if I had said something wrong or disrespectful. Finally she slowly said,

"Yes... I thought I was the last one left until you showed up."

"Oh. So that means that any... uh newborn could be Nack?" I asked with curiosity.

"Yeh, and-"

"Where are the other newborns?" I meowed a little too loud.

"Uh... um, let me teach you some controlling gifts first." Misty stuttered, her eyes unnaturally staring down at her paws.

"Ok..., sure!" I said suddenly remembering what Stan had said "and do not let her see the other Maters, ok?", "I would like to learn some of our gifts." I excitedly exclaimed. Misty immediately led me to bump under a oak tree with sapling.

"First, put your paw on the sapling and try to focus on its texture." Misty directed.

"Ok. I'll try." I murmured since my mind was already on the sapling. As a placed a paw on the sapling, I felt something burning from under the sapling, it grew hotter until I pulled my paw away.

"Ouch!" I yelped, pulling my paw away. Misty tilted her head.

"You put paw on it for too long!" She said. I looked down at my paw. I put pulled my hand away when it started to get kind of hot. I fixed my eyes on the sapling waiting for something to happen. Then, like magic a tiny sprout popped out of the ground. As I watched it grow, I felt something inside me stir. It grew in front of my hind eyes, first small, fragile and curving in

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all direction possible. Then it started growing straight until it met the oak tree above us. Suddenly it spread open and disappeared like a bright firework.

“Wha...what happened, how come it just disappeared? Did I just destroy it? Why-”

“Don’t worry, it just gave you a very strong shield.” Misty comforted, “See, I can’t even touch a hair like this.” Misty reached out and tapped at an invisible bubble around me.

“Cool! Then how come the Pines killed so many of your kind?” I said excited.

“They have their own powers.” Misty muttered, “Well it seems like it is getting dark, I will show you where you will sleep.” I looked around, there were barely any people left on the field. I did not even notice since I was so interested in the sapling. My legs suddenly felt sore and my paws were stinging from the sapling.

“Gladly!” I exclaimed. Then I remembered the cats that brought me to this amazing dimension.

“Hey, where is Max, Stan, and Dan?” I asked.

“They will be guarding the entrance to here.” Misty yawned.

“I think Max is also a Nack.” I murmured without noticing.

“He was about to become one of us but then, the Zone suddenly shut down. Probably because of the Pines, anyway, Max was so angry, he did not sleep for weeks.” Misty murmured. Misty led me to a section of Home where there were lush leaves everywhere. Scattered on the ground, as a matter of a fact, there were so many piles of leaves, there was no dirt left to be seen. I chirped a new sound and rolled around, lounging in “paradise”.

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